

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

Title:	Engineers in Sports
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Issue Date:	Mar-1938
Publisher:	Ohio State University, College of Engineering
Citation:	Ohio State Engineer, vol. 21, no. 4 (March, 1938), 20-21.
URI:	http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35494
Appears in Collections:	Ohio State Engineer: Volume 21, no. 4 (March, 1938)

ENGINEERS IN SPORTS

By FENWICK and FRITZ

IT'S getting as hard to find an engineer in any of the major sports as it is to find an empty booth in Hennick's after a basketball game. But your writers, raised to the heights of ambition by the inspiring words of Ye Olde Editor, set out again this month to round up some engineers to put before the public's eye. The first stop was at the gym where we learned that there were three engineers on the swimming squad, two on the basketball squad, and two on the fencing squad. That was indeed music to our ears. But we rejoiced too soon for it turned out that two of the swimmers and one of the basketball players had left the College of Engineering for different fields. That left us with Bill Feeman of the basketball squad, Bob Tronstein of the swimming team, and Steve Veirs and Bob Lamiman of the fencing group.

Bill Feeman

That Bill Feeman has never been in the starting lineup on the basketball team is in our opinion no indication of his real merit. Bill's record before coming to Ohio State was exceptionally outstanding in every respect. The fact that he has so many diversified activities has kept him from showing so brilliantly as an athlete. We think that Bill is one of the most outstanding, all-around men in the Engineering College, and we hope that this article brings that to light.

Bill was born in Wilmington, Delaware. Several years later his parents moved to Indianapolis. Bill soon became acquainted with a boy by the name of Johnny Townsend, who lived next door. Before long Bill and Johnny started playing basketball together, and in a few more years they were team-mates on the Technical High School five of Indianapolis. Feeman and Townsend made a good combination and along with Leroy Edwards, who was destined to become an All-American player for the University of Kentucky, they helped Technical High to have a strong quintet.

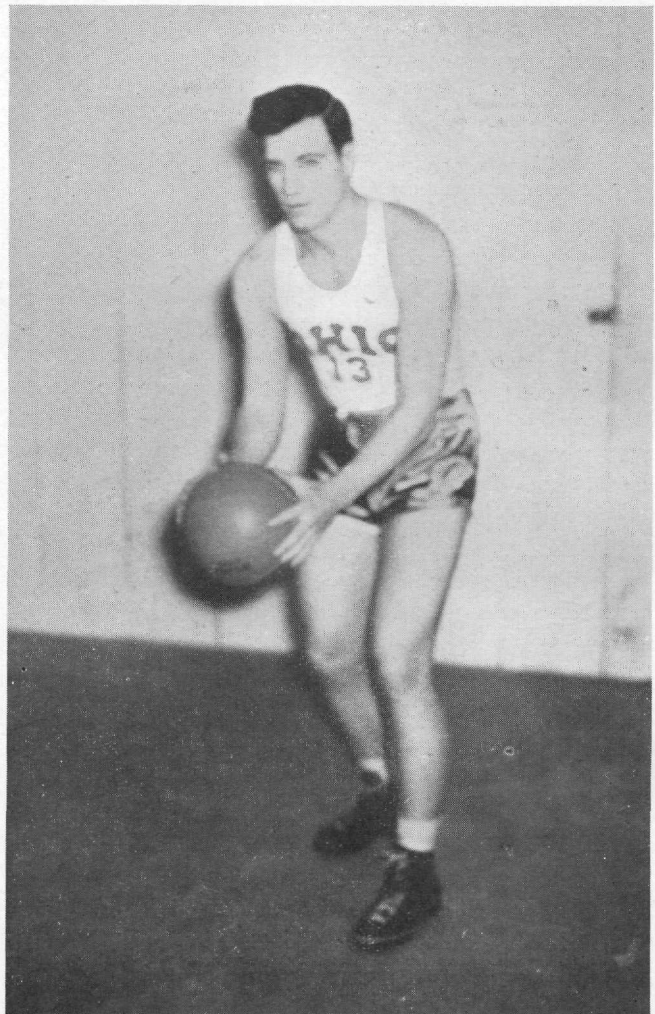
Bill's activities were not solely confined to basketball, however. He played football and was on the track team. In addition to this he was president of the senior class and valedictorian of a graduating class of 1220 students. Bill was also Corps Colonel in the high school R. O. T. C. On graduation he was offered five scholastic scholarships from various colleges. Those schools that offered to reward him for his outstanding classwork were De Pauw University, Purdue University, Butler College, Rose Polytechnic of Terre Haute, and John Herron Art Institute of Indianapolis. Other factors entered into Feeman's selection of a college. Since scholarships cover only school expenses, Bill concluded that he could live for less in Columbus and

come to Ohio State. Townsend decided to go to Michigan, and, as a result, a great basketball combination was broken.

Bill made the freshman basketball squad and was on the varsity squad his sophomore year. The fact that he was able to make the squad at all was a miracle. It happens that he has been self-supporting for the last seven years; and when he tried to work his way through college, it became increasingly difficult. At the time he became a candidate for the varsity team, he was working eight hours a day and carrying a full academic schedule. Coach Olsen informed the players that it would be impossible to do much outside work and be on the squad; so Bill never told him of his job.

Bill was working for the Buckeye Casting Company at the time and has been working at that company ever since. He would go to work at midnight

Bill Feeman



and work until eight o'clock the next morning. He then went to class and after classes were over practiced basketball. So you can see that Bill had a good reason for not playing his best game.

During his third year he was forced to work from four o'clock in the afternoon until midnight on alternate weeks; therefore, it was impossible to go out for the team again. This year, since Bill has his evenings open, he is back on the squad.

Because Feeman works eight hours a day and plays basketball might lead one to believe that he is having a hard time keeping scholastically eligible. These thoughts may be discarded, for after ten quarters in school Bill has a 3.34 accumulative point-hour ratio. So far he has had four quarters of four point, something quite rare in the College of Engineering. He is a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Scabbard and Blade, and is scholastically eligible for Tau Beta Pi.

Bill started in chemical engineering but after he got his job for the Buckeye Casting Company, he became interested in metallurgy and as a result switched to that curriculum. He lost a year toward a metallurgy degree so he decided he would take a six year course and get a bachelor's degree in metallurgy and a master's degree in chemical engineering. At present he is a metallurgical chemist at the factory in which he works; and since he is interested in going into research in the field of alloy steels he may keep that job after graduation from college.

Bob Tronstein

Changing to engineering students on the swimming squad, we find Bob Tronstein, a sophomore in mechanical engineering. Bob hails from Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended Cleveland Heights High School.

After a short talk with Bob it was firmly impressed in our minds that the students of Cleveland Heights High take their swimming seriously. The school's swimming team has won the state championship so many times that it has become a proverbial custom. Bob's team won the state title in each of the three years that he was on the squad, and in 1935 they won the national championship.

Some of the men on Bob's team have continued their athletic careers at various colleges and universities. Jack Wolin, Michigan's diving champion, and Jack Gorman, captain of Western Reserve's swim team, are both products of Cleveland Heights.

Tronstein, himself, chose Ohio State principally because of its reputable engineering courses. Of course, he was very anxious to be a member of Ohio State's swimming team because he felt that to be on an Ohio State team would be quite an honor to anyone. Bob has also been interested in track. He won three high school letters in the sport, but he doesn't expect to enter competition in college.

Turning to the non-athletic side of Bob's college life, we find that he is a member of Zeta Beta Tau fra-

ternity. Academically he is especially interested in engineering drawing in which he manages to make A's consistently.

Steven Veirs

Stephen Veirs known to many as Steve is one of the engineers in fencing. He was born in Old Virginia and his family moved to Canton, Ohio, while he was still very young. Canton McKinley, the alma mater of many well known athletes, is also his old tramping ground. Due to his working after school, Veirs did not go out for any athletics in high school. His interest was there just the same for he went out for intramurals and took an active part in the Hi-Y club.

When yours truly called on Veirs he was very much absorbed in a problem involving the efficiency of a carburetor. He had plans of a patent carburetor from a very efficient engine and he was trying to adapt them to a Ford carburetor. He explained that this was his hobby for the moment but a couple months from now it might be entirely different.

When asked for the reason for choosing Engineering, Veirs said that he was brought up in industrial Canton and that he thought it only natural that he choose this career.

Duane Lamiman

Duane Lamiman is the other engineer on the fencing team. For some reason fencing seems to be attractive to Industrial Engineers, or is it that Industrial Engineering is attractive to fencers. Anyway both Lamiman and Veirs are I. E.'s. Lamiman hails from Zanesville, Ohio, and is a senior this year. He came to State fresh from high school. Everything went well until his junior year when he was forced to stay out of school two years. While in the automobile city, his fencing career started. He joined the Salle De Tuscan Fencing Club. So Lamiman was among old friends when Ohio State matched foils with Salle De Tuscan earlier this season.

Before coming to Columbus he tried all brands of fencing. Since that time he has decided on epee.

Besides being an active member of the S. S. I. E., he is a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity.

*Duane
Lamiman*

